

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Application in light of the Office Action mailed November 14, 2005. At the time of the Office Action, Claims 1-21 were pending in the Application. Applicant amends Claims 1, 8, and 15 and cancels Claims 3 and 10, without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant adds Claims 22-25. Applicant's amendments, cancellations, and additions have been done to advance prosecution in this case and not to overcome prior art. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims and favorable action in this case.

Section 102 Rejection

The Examiner rejects Claims 1, 8, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,864,584 issued to Cao (hereinafter "*Cao*"). Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this rejection of the above-mentioned claims. "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987); M.P.E.P. §2131. Applicant respectfully submits that *Cao* does not disclose, teach, or suggest, either expressly or inherently, each and every element the claims.

Applicant amends Claim 1 to include the limitations of Claim 3, amends Claim 8 to include the limitations of Claim 10, and amends Claim 15 to include the limitations of Claim 3. *Cao* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest each and every element of Applicant's amended Claim 1, either expressly or inherently. For example, *Cao* does not disclose, teach, or suggest "releasing the data line to a second voltage state if the first data signal is a logic one, wherein releasing the data line to a second voltage state comprises placing an output of an amplifier coupled to the data line into an open drain state." Because *Cao* fails to teach at least this limitation, Applicant respectfully submits that *Cao* cannot anticipate Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Thus, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of independent Claim 1 and its dependents.

Independent Claims 8 and 15 each recite certain limitations that, for reasons substantially similar to those discussed with reference to independent Claim 1, *Cao* does not disclose, teach, or suggest, either expressly or inherently. Accordingly, Applicant

respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of independent Claims 8 and 15 with their dependents.

Section 103 Rejections

The Examiner rejects Claims 7, 14, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over *Cao*. The Examiner also rejects Claims 13 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over *Cao* in view of “admitted prior art.” *Office Action*, p. 5. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 7, 13-14, and 17-18 are patentable over *Cao* since each and every claim limitation is not taught, suggested, or disclosed, either expressly or inherently. Claim 7 depends from Claim 1, Claims 13-14 depend from Claim 8, and Claims 17-18 depend from Claim 15, which Applicant has shown above to be allowable over *Cao*. Additionally, Claims 7, 13-14, and 17-18 recite additional limitations that are not disclosed, taught, or suggested by *Cao*. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 7, 13-14, and 17-18.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objects to Claims 2-6, 9-12, and 16 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would allow the claims if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. *Office Action*, p. 6. Claims 3 and 10 have been canceled. Claims 1, 8, and 15 have been amended accordingly to include the limitations of Claims 3 or 10. Claims 2, 4-6, 9, 11-12, and 16 depend on allowable Claims 1, 8, and 15. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-2, 4-9, and 11-15 are now allowable. Applicant further appreciates the allowance of Claims 19-21. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

New Claims

Applicant adds new Claims 22-25, which are fully supported by the specification of the present Application as originally filed. Claim 22 recites a method where “the data line is coupled to a first voltage level using a pull-up resistor, and driving a data line to a first voltage state comprises pulling voltage of the data line from the first voltage level towards a zero voltage level.” *Cao* does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least this limitation.

Accordingly, Claim 22 is allowable. Claim 24 recites substantially similar limitations and is allowable for at least the same reason.

Claim 23 recites a method “wherein driving the released data line to the third voltage state comprises: placing an output of a first amplifier coupled to the data line into an open drain state; and driving a second amplifier coupled to the data line.” *Cao* does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least this limitation. Accordingly, Claim 23 is allowable. Claim 25 recites substantially similar limitations and is allowable for at least the same reason. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of new Claims 22-25.

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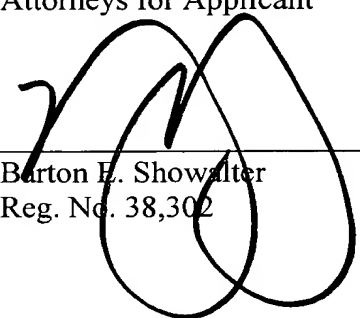
CONCLUSION

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for all other reasons clear and apparent, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Applicant submits a check in the amount of \$900.00 to cover the fee for the additional claims. Although Applicants believe that no other fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If there are matters that can be discussed by telephone to advance prosecution of this application, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact its attorney, Barton E. Showalter, at (214) 953-6509.

Respectfully submitted,
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